

Club Notice of Keel Racing

1. Rules

1.1 Racing will be governed by the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing 2021 - 2024 (RRS). The sailing instructions may also change other racing rules. The changes will appear in full in the sailing instructions.

1.2 Nothing written in either this Notice of Race or the sailing instructions removes a boat's responsibility to comply with the Falmouth Harbour bye-laws, when sailing in the Falmouth Harbour designated area, see: www.falmouthharbour.co.uk/wp/wp-content/uploads/30-130-01-FHCByelaws.pdf.

2. Entries

2.1 Entries will be accepted only from owners or their representatives who are members of a PoFSA club, and have (where applicable) completed and submitted a valid entry form, paid the correct entry fee, and whose boat displays sail numbers in compliance with RRS Appendix G.

Under sixteen year-olds may enter or crew only if their parent or guardian has given their permission and completed and signed the parental permission form provided.

2.2 Boats must race in their designated class and may not change class during a series.

2.3 The HRSC race committee reserves the right to alter/combine classes and change/adapt entry conditions as they see fit in light of entries received.

2.4 The Entry form can be found on the HRSC website and together with correct entry fee (where applicable) shall be submitted on-line or delivered by hand to:-

The Race Committee, HRSC, Helford, Helston,
Cornwall TR12 6L

To be eligible to enter any race an Entry Form must be completed and submitted. For Wednesday evening Yacht Racing only one Entry Form need be submitted at the beginning of the season.

It is strongly recommended that all competitors download the RYASafeTRX app and register their vessel. This replaces the CG66 which is no longer valid. The app may be downloaded from the Apple Store or Google Play. Alternatively, competitors may register on the RYA website at www.safetrx.rya.org.uk.

3. Risk Statement

Rule 4 of the Racing Rules of Sailing states: "The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone".

Sailing is by nature an unpredictable sport and therefore inherently involves an element of risk. By taking part in the event, each competitor agrees and acknowledges that:

- (a)** They are aware of the inherent element of risk involved in the sport and accept responsibility for the exposure of themselves, their crew and their boat to such inherent risk whilst taking part in the event;
- (b)** They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and their other property whether afloat or ashore;
- (c)** They accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions and omissions;
- (d)** Their boat is in good order, equipped to sail in the event and they are fit to participate;
- (e)** The provision of a race management team, patrol boats and other officials and volunteers by the event organiser does not relieve them of their own responsibilities;
- (f)** For offshore races they are responsible for ensuring that their boat is equipped and seaworthy so as to be able to face extremes of weather; that there is a crew sufficient in number, experience and fitness to withstand such weather and that the safety equipment is properly maintained, stowed and in date and is familiar to the crew;
- (g)** It is their responsibility to familiarise themselves with any risks specific to the venue or event drawn to their attention in any rules and information produced for the venue or event and to attend any safety briefing held for the event;
- (h)** Helford River Sailing Club cannot provide patrol boat/safety boat cover for the duration of the racing.

4. Sailing Instructions

4.1 Sailing Instructions will be: a. posted on the Helford River Sailing Club website and Helford River Sailing Club Yacht Racing Facebook page and may be downloaded. b. available for collection at the Club.

4.2 Instructions for Special Races and Notice of Racing for individual events will be posted on the HRSC website and on the HRSC Yacht Racing Facebook page.

5. Prizes

These are all detailed in the Sailing Instructions, which are available prior to entry, see 4 above.

6. Sailing Programme 2024

The proposed Sailing Programme is Appended to the Yacht Racing Sailing Instructions.

7. Classes

Generally, Yacht Racing will be run as a single Handicap Class. If the number of entries for any one race exceeds 15 the Race Committee reserve the right to group boats into separate classes and run multiple starts.

Where possible, details of classes split will be posted on the HRSC website and Facebook pages.

8. Courses

8.1 All Series and Special races: Helford River and Falmouth Bay.

8.2 Offshore races: Western Approaches, English Channel, Plymouth forecast area.

8.3 Start times for all races are published in the sailing instructions.

9. Handicaps

9.1 For Wednesday evening Series racing, the Race Committee will use the RYA YTC rating to establish handicaps.

9.2 Entrants shall forward a copy of their RYA YTC rating certificate with their entries. **9.3** In the absence of an RYA YTC handicap rating, the Race Committee reserve the right to determine and allocate handicaps based a IRC rating (if provided) or upon similar boats with known handicaps as they see fit.

10 Series Racing

10.1 Spring Series (7 Races) from 8th May until 19th June

10.2 Summer Series (7 Races) from 26th June until 7th August

10.3 Late Summer Series (6 Races) from the 21st August until 25th September.

11 Offshore Racing Safety Requirements

Note : For Off-Shore Races and race specific NOR/SIs take precedence over the HRSC NOR/SIs

11.1 Offshore racing: The safety of the boat and its entire management including insurance shall be the sole responsibility of the owner/competitor who must ensure the boat is fully found, thoroughly seaworthy, operated by a crew sufficient in numbers and experience who are physically fit to face bad weather. The owner/skipper must be satisfied that:

11.1.1 The Hull, Hull Appendages, Spars, Rigging, Sails and all gear are sound.

11.1.2 All Safety Equipment is properly maintained, stowed and in date.

11.1.3 The crew know where such equipment is kept and how it is to be used.

All Classes World Sailing Offshore Special Regulations for Inshore Racing

At the discretion of the Race Committee, boats complying with the following minimum requirements may be permitted to race. Boats shall be self-righting from 90 degrees. And the cockpits shall be self-draining. If class rules provide a higher standard, then class rules apply.

11.2 Below is a list of safety equipment to which all competing boats must comply. Each item of equipment shall function properly and be suitable for its intended purpose in the size of boat on which it is carried. Each item shall be securely stowed and ready for immediate use. Any additional equipment required by class rules must also be carried.

1. Suitable anchor
2. Fire extinguisher if fuel or gas carried
3. Horseshoe type lifebuoy or life sling
4. Bucket and lanyard
5. Personal flotation devices for each crew (Note: it is not compulsory to wear them)
6. Marine compass
7. VHF radio with suitable marine Channels
8. Powerful torch /spare batteries
9. Suitable flares (or LED flares)
10. Whistle and Fog Horn
11. Bilge Pump
12. Working auxiliary Engine
13. First Aid Kit

12. Radio Communication

Except in an emergency, a boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones.

13. Insurance

Each participating boat shall be insured for racing including third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of £3,000,000, (three million pounds).

14. Race Committee

The Race Committee members will be Commodore, Vice Commodore, Hon. Captain Sailing and Race Officer of the day.